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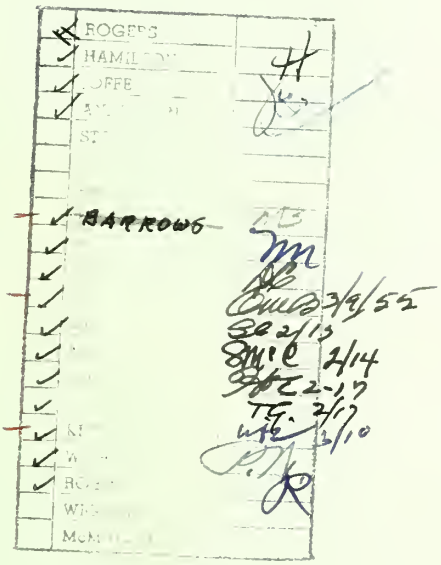
UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Yellowstone NATIONAL PARK

FILE NO. A2823

SUPERINTENDENT'S MONTHLY REPORT

JANUARY 1955



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UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK
YELLOWSTONE PARK, WYO.

FICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Summary of the January 1955 Monthly Narrative Report
YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK

		Page
WEATHER:	12.6" snowfall, .65" precipitation, at Mammoth; quite low. Maximum Mammoth 36°, minimum -9°; Jan. 2-25 always below freezing. Park minimum -32° at South. Comparative snow depths.	1
SPECIAL ACTIVITIES:	Rogers at Denver; attended personnel meeting. Hamilton, Wohlbrandt, Mattson to Helena re Gallatin road. Letter 2 to WODC plans & designs conf. Barrows to Teton re grazing. Condon gave program, Billings. Brown military & annual leave. Proper to Denver confer on C. S. & to personnel meeting. W. Biastoch to Cheyenne for surplus. L. Swanson, Mont. Highway Comm., in re Gallatin road. Safety Committee & Board of Survey appointed. Everett appointed to Board of U.S.C.S. Examiners. Permit to man at W. Yell. to operate occasional snowmobile trips to Old Faithful. Fed. Empl. Life Ins. policies distributed. Isabelle Story retired. D'Ewart appointed Special Asst. to Sec. of Agriculture. 2 C. S. exams given. Work load survey.	2-4
INSPECTIONS:	Jay from T. Roosevelt N.M.P. & Luce from Custer in.	4
PUBLICITY:	Travel press release. Advice broadside at Govt. Printing Office; will get 400,000. 67,000 on hand.	4
PLANS, MAPS & SURVEYS:	PCP for 6-year program submitted. Asst. Engrs. on construction drawings Canyon cabin area roads & Lake Lodge cabin area sewer & water.	4
MAINTENANCE:	Plowing, sanding & sign repair.	4
CONCESSIONERS:	Franchise fee from Haynes. Child to Billings Hotel meeting; plans made hold Rocky Mtn. Hotel Assn. meet in park in June. Childs to La Jolla confer with Y.P. Co. officials. Y. P. Medical Service permit submitted. Y.P.Co. Printer back from trip. Dr. Lueck in. Plans for Haynes improvements.	4-5

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		Page
RELIGIOUS SERVICES:	Sunday School. Church, Communion & Baptisms. Rev. Ost in re student ministry program & held services.	5
INTERPRETIVE SERVICES:	Slides loaned Great Smokies. Condon gave program for Episcopal young people, Livingston, & for engineers group, Billings. Film on loan at Scotts Bluff. Beal showed Everglades film to Scouts.	5-6
MUSEUMS:	Exhibit plans W. Yell. Info Station submitted; also balance plans Old F. Museum.	6
RESEARCH AND OBSERVATION:	Research Priority & Project Reports prepared. Turner paper on Reptiles & Amphibians being typed; also Watson report on Norris.	6
NATURAL HISTORY ASSOCIATION:	YLMA having Henning print pictures. Assn. financing 2 reprints New Zealand Geyser film. YLMA report. Financing pamphlet by W. Gord for wildlife caravans.	6
IN-SERVICE TRAINING:	Staff meetings. Weekly News. In-Service training in Chief Ranger's Office; preparing written instructions. Hart getting training in Fiscal Office. Letters from Bohn re in-service training.	7
TRAVEL:	731 visitors in 195 cars, includes 71 in over-snow vehicles & 20 Scouts on snowshoe trip.	7
VISITORS:	Col. Geo. Jones & Major Ernest Burnett, Air Force, Las Vegas, guests of Hamiltons, hunted elk. Don Brooks, Outdoor Editor, Salt Lake Tribune.	7
RANGER SERVICE:	Largely elk trapping, hunting patrols, ski patrols, snow measurements, travel report, booklet on C.R.O. operations, etc.	8
ANTELOPE:	Trapping by airplane tried by Mont. Fish & Game but unsuccessful.	8
ELK:	Gallatin closed, 610 taken. Only 283 Gardiner area, still open. Scattered over winter range, grazing ok. 195 trapped & live shipped, some to Mexico. Downward movement. 1338 counted between Lamar & Pebble Creek. Tagged elk trapped near where tagged. Snow Gallatin shallow, late movement elk.	8-10
RANGE:	Kittams observations range conditions. Aspen study.	10
FOREST FIRE PROTECTION:	Progress new dispatcher's office. Storage in fire cache. Fire conference & projects suggested.	10-11
BUILDING FIRES:	Maintenance & replacing fire extinguishers.	11
BLISTER RUST:	Inquiries sent to 1954 men.	11

Yellowstone Park Museum

[illegible]

[illegible]: [illegible] Good, [illegible] [illegible]. [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible].

[illegible]: [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]. [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

		Page
FOREST INSECTS:	Recommendations Montana State Forest Supervisor on spruce budworm control.	11
TRAILS:	Horse trail items for 1957 estimates. Priority list revised, projects listed. Maintenance man requirements submitted. Trail marker making discontinued for time.	11
RANCH & CORRAL:	Most horses fed at Lamar. Repair saddles, etc.	12
ACCIDENTS & SAFETY:	2 vehicle accidents, Gallatin. Revision boat regulations. Slow signs for road at ski area. Warnings for winter driving made by Safety Comm. & put in Newsletter.	12
DEATHS:	Dr. Gould's sister. Edward Garr, former NPS Fireman.	12
BIRTHS:	Son born to Dr. & Mrs. Gould.	
PERSONNEL:	Norman Herkenham, Yosemite, selected Park Naturalist. Margaret Acree, Clerk-Steno., resigned. Marie Pierson temp. appt. Clerk-Typist. Indef. promotions made perm. Guard positions from CPC-4 to GS-2. Conversions to career & career-conditional status.	12-13
MISCELLANEOUS:	Schools reopened. NFFE meeting & election. AFGE meeting. Credit Union meeting & election, 3.6% Dividend.	13-14

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A2823

Report 1ml

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK
YELLOWSTONE PARK, WYO.

CE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

February 10, 1955

Memorandum

To: The Director

From: Acting Superintendent, Yellowstone National Park

Subject: Monthly Report for January 1955

Following is the report of activities for Yellowstone National Park during the month of January 1955:

Weather Conditions. A total of only 13.6 inches of snowfall and .65 inch of precipitation was recorded at Mammoth headquarters during the month. The maximum temperature there of 36° was recorded on the 25th and the minimum of -9° on the 6th. Eight days of above freezing maximum temperatures were recorded, mostly during the latter part of the month and seven days of below zero minimum temperatures were recorded. Between the 2nd and 25th no above freezing temperatures were recorded at Mammoth.

The lowest temperature in the park during the month was 32° below zero at the South Entrance on January 7 and the maximum was 40° at Tower Fall on the 27th. Other minimum temperatures included -29° at Lamar and -22° at Northeast Entrance on the 6th and 7th, -27° at Lake on the 18th, and -26° at Tower Fall and -24° at West Entrance on the 6th.

Snow depths as of January 31 for various stations in the park are as follows:

Location	1955	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948
Mammoth	8"	12"	1"	14"	7"	10"	14"	10"
Tower Fall	21"	16"	8"	24"	22"	19"	32"	27"
Lamar	15"	14"	6"	20"	10"	6"	27"	11"
Northeast	33"	35"	26"	31"	23"	30"	35"	33"
Lake	20"	35"	26"	40"	30"	40"	38"	37"
Snake River	35"	51"	52"	55"	42"	37"	46"	39"
West Yellowstone	24"	40"	31"	50"	33"	43"	40"	25"
Mammoth Precipitation	.65"	1.99"	1.12"	1.48"	.99"	2.32"	1.51"	1.33"

Other snow depths at the end of the month are as follows: Canyon, 35"; Continental Divide (South of Thumb), 35"; Aster Creek, 40"; Lewis River Divide, 53"; and Coulter Meadows, 37".

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Special Activities. Superintendent Rogers was on assignment in Denver throughout the month in connection with his project on the legislative history of areas administered by the National Park Service. On the 11th he attended a meeting conducted there by the Federal Personnel Association.

Acting Superintendent Hamilton, Park Engineer Wohlbrandt and Park Landscape Architect Mattson made a trip to Helena January 25 to confer with Montana Highway Department officials regarding the Gallatin road. On the 29th Messrs. Wohlbrandt and Mattson departed for the Western Office, Division of Design and Construction, San Francisco, to attend the plans and designs conference concerning park development and projects. They expect to be away two weeks. Assistant Park Engineer Schmid is Acting Chief Engineer.

Forester Barrows left January 25 for Grand Teton for a discussion of grazing matters effective at that area, returning the 28th.

Park Naturalist Condon presented pictures and a talk on the park to a group of civil engineers at Billings on January 27.

Chief Ranger Brown was away from the park on leave January 5 through 11 visiting at Walla Walla, Washington. On the 21st he departed on military leave and annual leave, expecting to be gone until March 4. He was recalled to active duty in the U. S. Army Reserve for training at Mountain and Cold Weather Training Command, Fort Carson, Colorado, January 22 to February 5 and will spend the remainder of the time on leave in New Mexico and California. Assistant Chief Ranger Chapman was Acting Chief Ranger during the first period of absence and Assistant Chief Ranger McComas during the present period.

Personnel Assistant Proper left January 8 for Denver to confer with Civil Service Commission officials and attend a personnel meeting on the 11th conducted by the Federal Personnel Association. He returned January 14.

Storekeeper Biastoch left January 3 for Cheyenne, Wyoming, to take delivery of surplus property and returned the 7th.

On January 28, Les Swanson, Member of Montana Highway Commission, Livingston, was in the office to discuss the Gallatin road improvement.

The Yellowstone Park Safety Committee designated January 11 for 1955 was as follows: Robert R. Robinson, Chairman; Dwight E. Richards, Clerk; Thomas F. Ela and Lawrence Murray, Members; and J. Stanley Fillmore and John A. Schmid, Alternates. Messrs. Murray and Schmid were appointed to fill the vacancies of Melvin A. Thuring and W. Verde Watson, respectively, who have transferred from the area.

Yellowstone Park Museum

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On January 21 a Board of Survey was appointed for Yellowstone National Park and Big Hole Battlefield National Monument for the ensuing year consisting of Philip M. Wohlbrandt, Chairman; Edwin N. Chamberlin, Clerk; Roger H. Miller and Otto M. Brown, Members; and Thomas K. Garry and Howard S. Kocher, Alternate Members. The membership remains the same as for 1954 except that Mr. Chamberlin has been substituted for Gene F. McLeod as Clerk.

Rolla D. Everett, Personnel Clerk, was appointed by the 10th Civil Service Region as a Member of the Board of U. S. Civil Service Examiners for Yellowstone effective January 19. Membership on the Board entails responsibility of serving as an examiner of various assembled examinations and other work on a cooperative basis for the Examining and Placement Division of the Region. The other members on this Board are Personnel Assistant William G. Proper, Chairman, and Administrative Officer Ernest R. I. Anderson.

A permit was granted January 18 to William J. Nicholls and Harold M. Young of West Yellowstone Montana, operating as a partnership called SNOWMOBILES OF WEST YELLOWSTONE, to make occasional trips carrying passengers from that town to Old Faithful, using two Bombardier Snowmobiles. A trial run was made January 20 with only members of their families and friends. Three additional trips were made during the month with a total of 22 paying passengers. About an hour is required each way for the trip of 30 miles.

The Federal Employees Group Life Insurance policies were received and were distributed on January 20 to all permanent employees. This insurance has been in effect since August 29, 1954.

Isabelle Story, Editor in Chief of the National Park Service, Washington, D. C., retired at the close of January 31. She was a member of the original staff of the National Park Service when it was created in August 1916. She has visited Yellowstone on a number of occasions, her last trip having been made last summer when she spent several days here prior to a trip to Hawaii.

Wesley A. D'Ewart of Wilsall, Montana, who was the Congressman from the 2nd Montana District from 1945 to 1954, was appointed Special Assistant to the Secretary of Agriculture on January 5. He is well known in Yellowstone and has served as Chairman of the Absaroka Conservation Committee since its organization in 1943.

The Local Civil Service Board held an examination for Clerk, GS-4, 5 and 6 on January 11 and one for Stenographer-Typist on the 13th. Administrative Officer Anderson conducted the examinations and there was one competitor for each.

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In accordance with a recommendation of the Department's Organization and Management Survey Report, a survey covering the work performed by employees in various areas including Yellowstone is being conducted for the period January 30 through February 26, all permanent employees being required to keep a detailed daily record of work performed and make a summary thereof. This survey is being conducted to improve management of the areas administered by the National Park Service. Professional employees were required to also keep detailed records of work done for the period January 17-28 and will be required to keep similar reports for the two-week periods March 28-April 8, June 7-17, and August 8-19.

Inspections. John W. Jay, Superintendent, Theodore Roosevelt National Memorial Park, visited in the park from January 1 to 3 on his return from annual leave in Utah and Colorado.

Edward S. Luce, Superintendent, Custer Battlefield National Monument, was in the park January 17 and 18 to discuss matters affecting his area.

Publicity. A press release on Yellowstone travel for 1954 was mailed to the park's mailing list on January 3.

On January 28 the Washington Office advised that the 1955 Yellowstone broadside had been sent to the Government Printing Office for printing and that Yellowstone would receive 400,000 copies.

A total of 67,000 Yellowstone broadsides for 1954 remained on hand at the end of the month.

Plans, Maps and Surveys. The project construction program for a six-year program was worked up during the month and submitted to the Regional Office. This involved the revision of many proposals and quite a number of new ones.

Assistant Engineers Schmid and Ketcham devoted all their time to the preparation of construction drawings for the Canyon cabin area development roads and the Lake Lodge cabin area sewer and water distribution systems.

Maintenance. Road maintenance was confined to snow removal and sanding icy spots and the repair of signs, many of which are brought in to headquarters for that purpose.

Concessioners. A check in the amount of $19,126.87 was received January 7 from Haynes Inc. covering its operations for the year ended December 31, 1954.

Huntley Child, Jr., Vice-President, Yellowstone Park Company, attended a meeting of the Directors of the Rocky Mountain and Montana

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Hotel Associations at Billings January 8 and 9. Mr. Child is President of the Montana Hotel Association. Arrangements were made at that meeting to hold the next Rocky Mountain Hotel Association meeting in Yellowstone Park on June 16, 17 and 18, 1955. On the 17th he and Mrs. Child left for La Jolla, California, to discuss park matters with other Yellowstone Park Company officials, expecting to return February 1.

On January 8 a new one-year permit for the Yellowstone Park Medical Service for Drs. Lueck and Pearson was signed and sent to the Washington Office for submission to the Committees of Congress.

Joe Bill, Yellowstone Park Company Printer, returned January 13 from a six-weeks trip in the East.

Dr. Alfred M. Lueck of the Yellowstone Park Medical Service visited in the park from Livingston on January 16.

Plans were submitted during the month for Addition to Haynes Inc. Old Faithful Shop Building and for Store Alterations at their Tower Fall Shop.

Religious Services and Chapel Use. The regular Sunday School services were held in the Yellowstone Park Chapel each Sunday morning at 10:00 a. m. during the month of January. Church services were not held on January 2, but were held in the Chapel each Sunday at 11:00 a.m. during the balance of the month. On January 9 a special communion service was conducted by the Rev. Warren W. Ost, who visited Yellowstone the early part of January. At this same service, the Rev. Mr. Ost baptized Sara Lee Moore, infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Moore, and Susan Parkes, infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Parkes, both of Yellowstone Park.

The Rev. Warren W. Ost, who is Director of the Student Ministry in the National Parks, arrived in Yellowstone on January 7 and spent considerable time in conference with park officials on the student ministry program. He conducted the special services at Mammoth and one at Gardiner on Sunday evening and left Yellowstone Park on January 10.

Interpretive Services. A set of 50 35mm kodaslides was sent on loan to the Great Smoky Mountains National Park for use in a public relations program which they are carrying on in communities adjacent to that park.

Park Naturalist Condon presented a program, using 35mm kodaslides as illustrative material, to a Young People's Group at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Livingston on January 16. There were 28 persons in attendance.

The WILD ANIMAL HEAVEN 16mm motion picture was on loan to Scotts Bluff National Monument during the month, and it was reported that it was

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shown to some 200 persons in the Scotts Bluff area by Superintendent Anderson.

Mr. Condon traveled to Billings on January 27 where he presented a program that evening to the Annual Ladies Night Banquet of the American Society of Civil Engineers. The WILD ANIMAL HEAVEN 16mm motion picture was used for the program. There were 108 persons present at the meeting.

Park Naturalist Beal presented a program of movies on Everglades National Park to the Boy Scout group at Mammoth on January 20.

Museum Activities and Exhibits. On January 5 the completed exhibit plans for the West Yellowstone Information Station were assembled and transmitted to the Regional Office for review and submission to the Museum Branch. The balance of the exhibit plans for the Old Faithful Museum exhibit revisions were completed and these were transmitted to the Regional Office for review and submission to the Washington Office.

Research and Observation. The Reports on Research Priority and Research Projects in Progress in Yellowstone Park were prepared during the month with a total of 40 active or proposed research projects being listed in the reports.

Mr. Frederick B. Turner's paper on Reptiles and Amphibians is in the final copying stage, preparatory to submission to the printer for publication. Mr. Watson's report on the Norris Geyser Basin has been started, but not a great deal accomplished on this project as yet.

Natural History Association. The Association has arranged with Mr. William Henning to work in the dark room and do some printing of 8 x 10" glossy enlargements for the park's use. These prints are to be sent to interested parties who make requests to Yellowstone Park for certain types of illustrative materials. He has been unable to accomplish much on the project in January, but it is hoped he will be able to do much during the month of February.

The Yellowstone Library and Museum Association paid for the duplication of two copies of a 225 foot reel of 16mm colored motion picture film on the Geyser Basins in New Zealand. This film was made available for duplication by Superintendent Oberhansley of Grand Teton National Park.

Copies of the Annual Report of the Association were submitted by the Association's Executive Secretary on January 14 to the Superintendent for transmission to the offices of the Director and Regional Director.

The Association is financing a pamphlet for distribution to the Wildlife Caravan groups during the summer at Mammoth. This material, prepared by seasonal Park Naturalist Wallace Good, was reviewed on January 17 and returned to him. Mr. Good will arrange for the printing of this pamphlet in Kansas City.

shown to some 200 persons in the Scotts Bluff area by Superintendent Anderson.

Mr. Condon traveled to Billings on January 27 where he presented a program that evening to the Annual Ladies Night Banquet of the American Society of Civil Engineers. The WILD ANIMAL HEAVEN 16mm motion picture was used for the program. There were 100 persons present at the meeting.

Park Naturalist Beal presented a program of movies on Everglades National Park to the Boy Scout group at Mammoth on January 20.

Museum Activities and Exhibits. On January 5 the completed exhibit plans for the West Yellowstone Information Station were assembled and transmitted to the Regional Office for review and submission to the Museum Branch. The balance of the exhibit plans for the Old Faithful Museum exhibit revisions were completed and these were transmitted to the Regional Office for review and submission to the Washington Office.

Research and Observation. The Reports on Research Priority and Research Projects in Progress in Yellowstone Park were prepared during the month with a total of 40 active or proposed research projects being listed in the reports.

Mr. Frederick B. Turner's paper on Reptiles and Amphibians is in the final copying stage, preparatory to submission to the printer for publication. Mr. Watson's report on the Norris Geyser Basin has been started, but not a great deal accomplished on this project as yet.

Natural History Association. The Association has arranged with Mr. William Henning to work in the dark room and so some printing of 8 x 10" glossy enlargements for the park's use. These prints are to be sent to interested parties who make requests to Yellowstone Park for certain types of illustrative materials. He has been unable to accomplish much on the project in January, but it is hoped he will be able to do much during the month of February.

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In-Service Training. A staff meeting of division heads was held in the conference room January 13 to discuss master plans. On the 28th a meeting of division heads and a number of others was held in the conference room to discuss the work load study.

Yellowstone's Weekly News was issued each Thursday to keep employees, concessioners and others currently informed of park happenings.

Considerable time was spent by District Park Rangers Reynolds and Hart and Assistant Chief Ranger Garry in in-service training anticipating Mr. Hart's transfer to Rocky Mountain National Park next month and his replacement in the Chief Ranger's Office by Mr. Reynolds. Detailed instructions are being prepared by Mr. Reynolds regarding the operation of the Chief Ranger's Office. It is believed this permanent guide will be very helpful to any new men in the preparation of reports and in carrying out the many duties of this office. The guide is being prepared in such a form as to be a ready single reference regarding the many responsibilities and duties of the District Ranger assigned to that office.

District Ranger Hart spent a week in the Fiscal Office as in-service training in accounting, voucher payment and timekeeping.

Letters have been received from Park Ranger Rohn informing us of his in-service training activities at the 6th Departmental Management Training Program in Washington.

Increase or Decrease in Travel. A total of 731 visitors in 195 vehicles entered the park this month as compared with 891 persons in 267 vehicles for the same month last year. This total included 20 Boy Scouts from Cody, Wyoming, who made a snowshoe trip into the park at the East Entrance on January 1, leaving the same day, and 71 miscellaneous visitors who completed trips into the park in oversnow vehicles.

Special Visitors. Colonel George Jones and Major Ernest Burnett, U. S. Air Force, stationed at Nellis Air Force Base, Las Vegas, Nevada, arrived January 5. They were guests of the Warren Hamiltons and hunted elk north of the park, each being successful in getting his meat. They departed the 10th.

Don Brooks, Outdoor Editor, Salt Lake Tribune, Salt Lake City, Utah, arrived January 18, in company with members of the Utah State Fish and Game Commission, to obtain pictures and gather material for a story covering the antelope trapping operations. He was a visitor in the park last July with the Outdoor Writers group and fished at Peale Island. He was an employee in the park a number of years ago with the Morrison-Knudson Company, contractor on the Tower Fall-Dunraven Pass road.

Co-Service Training. A staff meeting of division heads was held in the conference room January 15 to discuss master plans. For the 8th a meeting of division heads and a number of others was held in the conference room to discuss the work load study.

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Increase or Decrease in Travel. A total of 731 visitors in 191 vehicles entered the park this month as compared with 891 persons in 207 vehicles for the same month last year. This total included 20 day scouts from Cody, Wyoming, who made a snowshoe trip into the park at the East Entrance on January 1, leaving the same day, and 71 miscellaneous visitors who completed trips into the park in overshoe vehicles.

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Dan Brooks, Outdoor Editor, Salt Lake Tribune, Salt Lake City, Utah, arrived January 13, in company with members of the Utah State Fish and Game Commission, to obtain pictures and gather material for a story covering the antelope trapping operations. He was a visitor in the park last July with the Outdoor Writers group and fished at Yale Island. He was an employee in the park a number of years ago with the Harrison-Knudson Company, contractor on the Tower Fall-Narrows Pass road.

Ranger Service. Wildlife activities took up most of the time of the Protection Division with a concentrated effort being made this month to trap elk for live shipments. A regular schedule of patrols, particularly at night in the Reese Creek area, was carried out to prevent illegal hunting and apprehend any violators.

The Montana Fish and Game Department was assisted in its efforts to trap antelope for the State of Utah, which operation proved unsuccessful.

In general, other winter activities at outlying stations were inspection and observation patrols along park boundaries and snowshoe cabins including a week's patrol to Old Faithful by two men from West Yellowstone at which time the area was inspected and snow removed from Government buildings. A trip to Lupine Creek was made to obtain snow measurements and to Harebell Creek from South Entrance for the same purpose. Snow measurements were also taken at other locations throughout the park.

Work in the Chief Ranger's Office included preparation and mailing of the Annual Travel Report to the park's mailing list, preparation of other routine and special reports, records and correspondence, and assistance to field stations regarding reports including information regarding the work load study. Considerable time has been spent in reviewing Chief Ranger's Office procedures and duties and in preparing a ready reference booklet of this information for operation in that office. Several minor changes in equipment have improved functions and appearances of the office.

ANTELOPE.

Wildlife and Fish Cultural Activities./ James McLucas, Senior Fieldman; Earl Andridge and Walter Newton, Fieldmen, Montana Fish and Game Department, were in the office January 15 regarding antelope trapping in the Stevens Creek and Reese Creek areas in the north end of the park for the State of Utah. They set up the portable trap and made other arrangements for driving the animals by airplane into the traps. Attempts were made to trap on the 18th to 20th but were unsuccessful. Apparently the animals have learned to have no fear of an airplane and have become adept at ways of evading the plane by staying in the ravines or among the trees. The traps were removed on the 20th and no further attempt will be made to trap antelope here this season.

ELK. The Gallatin, Montana, hunting area closed to hunting on January 18. The Montana Department of Fish and Game reported an estimated kill of 610 animals during the hunting season. This includes an estimated 30 animals wounded by hunters and not recovered and animals removed from the area without being reported to wardens or checking stations.

The Gardiner, Montana, hunting area remained open during the entire month. The so-called "Firing Line" did not prove very productive as only 283 elk have been checked out of this area. Probably as many as

Yellowstone

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The Gardiner, Montana, hunting area remained open during the entire month. The so-called "Firing Line" did not prove very productive as only 283 elk have been checked out of this area. Probably as many as

100 elk have been killed which have not been reported to the checking station for this area. At the close of the season, Montana Fish and Game Department will furnish us with a complete report of the season's kill.

Elk are well distributed over the winter range. The snow throughout the winter range, although about normal depth, is so dry and without crust the animals have no difficulty in grazing.

Even with conditions being unfavorable for elk trapping, it has been possible by the expending of much time and effort to make fair catches. Live shipments of elk were made during the month as follows:

January 4	State of Montana, Nutritional Study, at Boyd Ranch near Missoula	13
January 5	State of Montana, "Elk Lift" to hunting area	8
January 5	State of New Mexico, Range stocking	35
January 10	State of Montana, Nutritional Study	13
January 17	State of New Mexico, Range stocking	37
January 25	Bienes Mexicanos, S. A., Monterrey, Mexico, Range stocking	30
January 27	State of Montana, Nutritional Study	15
January 29	State of Montana, Range stocking, Hell's Canyon, near Butte, Montana	15
January 31	State of Montana, Range stocking, Hell's Canyon	29
	Total shipped	195

All shipments were made by truck except the express car load of 30 to Mexico. The shipment to Mexico was by Railroad Express. The express car was divided into three sections and the elk hauled by truck from our trap to the express car at Gardiner, Montana. At Laredo, Texas, the elk were unloaded into a specially constructed corral and then reloaded into three Mexican trucks for their final destination near Monterrey, Mexico. One animal was dead upon arrival at Laredo, Texas, and the other 29 reported in good condition. With the repeated handling of these animals and the long trip, it is remarkable they survived the trip. Of the 72 transported by truck to New Mexico, one calf was trampled and injured so severely that it had to be disposed of. All others arrived in good condition.

Biologist Kittams reported the gradual downward movement of elk is apparently continuing. Early in the month there was a heavy concentration of elk on Deckard Flat. First important movement of elk from the Flat and from the Mt. Everts area, resulting in a harvest by hunters, was on January 5. Since then, hunters have killed elk in the Gardiner-Jardine area on most days but the total harvest amounts to only a few hundred.

On January 31, 1,338 elk were counted in bands between Lamar Canyon and Pebble Creek.

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January 4	State of Montana, Nutritional Study, [illegible] near Missoula	13
January 5	State of Montana, "[illegible]" to hunting area	[illegible]
January 5	State of New Mexico, Range stocking	[illegible]
January 10	State of Montana, Nutritional Study	13
January 17	State of New Mexico, Range stocking	37
January 25	Bienes Mexicanos, S. A., Monterrey, Mexico, Range stocking	30
January 27	State of Montana, Nutritional Study	15
January 29	State of Montana, Range stocking, Hell's Canyon, near Butte, Montana	15
January 31	State of Montana, Range stocking, Hell's Canyon	29
	Total shipped	[illegible]

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On January 21, 1,539 elk were counted in bands between Lamar Canyon and Pebble Creek.

The two tags recovered from trapped elk showed "home returns". A cow in the Gardiner trap had been tagged within two miles of the trap in spring 1952. A bull at Mammoth had been released there four years before.

Reports indicate that snow on the Gallatin winter range is unusually shallow which probably accounts for the very late movement of elk there.

Range. Precipitation of 0.65", most of which fell on January 1 and 2, was much below the normal of 1.55" for Mammoth. Temperatures, although high for midwinter, were sufficiently low to have little effect on the snow. Winds were uncommon so most of the critical range is covered by snow. Snow depths at the end of the month were 19" at Pebble Creek, 15" at Lamar Unit and about 12" in the Horseshoe. Snow cover in the Gardiner area was shallow and broken.

Grazing animals are widely dispersed in the Yellowstone drainage and are feeding mainly where vegetation is in good condition.

Further analysis of the aspen data has been done since statistical assistance was obtained at Montana State College.

Forest Fire Protection. The dispatcher's new office in the Mammoth Barn, Building No. 38, was nearly completed insofar as construction is concerned, Installation of radio equipment, office furniture, cupboards and storage facilities is yet to be accomplished.

New storage facilities such as storage bins, shelves, benches, etc., were built in the fire cache to accommodate much of the equipment which is merely stacked in the storage room at the present time. Shelves, both old and new, were painted.

At a conference of Park Forester Barrows, Chief Ranger Brown, Assistant Chief Ranger Chapman and Smokejumper Squadleader Milligan on January 13, the following forest fire projects were suggested:

1. Communication. Active use of rented or purchased radios in combination with sets on hand as a stop-gap measure pending installation of a modern F.M. network. Purchase and use of a special michrophone "Electro Voice" and a headset for radio communication in the contract plane. Possibility of installing a loud speaker on the plane.

2. Study and improvement of aerial flight plans for fire detection.

3. Preparation and use of an aerial observers fire report form similar to the one recommended in the Aerial Operations Handbook or the one used at Glacier National Park.

The two tags recovered from trapped elk showed [illegible] cow in the Gardiner trap had been tagged within two miles of the trap in spring 1952. A bull at Mammoth had been released three four years before.

Reports indicate that snow on the Gallatin winter range is unusually shallow which probably accounts for the very late movement of elk there.

Range. Precipitation of 0.45", most of which fell on January 1 and 2, was much below the normal of 1.55" for Mammoth. Temperatures, although high for midwinter, were sufficiently low to have little effect on the snow. Winds were uncommon so most of the critical range is covered by snow. Snow depths at the end of the month were 19" at Female Creek, 15" at Lower Unit and about 12" in the Horseshoe. Snow cover in the Gardiner area was shallow and broken.

Grazing animals are widely dispersed in the Yellowstone Grainsand are feeding mainly where vegetation is in good condition.

Further analysis of the spoon data has been done since statistical assistance was obtained at Montana State College.

Forest Fire Protection. The dispatcher's new office in the Mammoth Farm, Building No. 38, was nearly completed insofar as construction is concerned. Installation of radio equipment, office furniture, cupboards and storage facilities is yet to be accomplished.

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1. Communication. Active use of rented or purchased radios in combination with sets on hand as a stop-gap measure pending installation of a modern F.S. network. Purchase and use of a special microphone "Electro Voice" and a headset for radio communication in the contract plane. Possibility of installing a loud speaker on the plane.

2. Study and improvement of aerial flight plans for fire detection.

3. Preparation and use of an aerial observers fire report form similar to the one recommended in the Aerial Operations Handbook or the one used at Glacier National Park.

4. Preparation of an air-ground travel time map and a smokejumper zone map.

5. Preparation of the park vegetative type map, adapted to map scale readings, for use in the dispatcher's office.

6. Fire truck and slip-on tanker placement study.

7 Narrative report by Mr. Milligan on Yellowstone aerial detection and smokejumping problems.

Building Fire Protection. Maintenance work on fire extinguishers in the Mammoth area, such as recharging large soda-acid type extinguishers, and replacing defective carbon tetrachloride extinguishers, was begun.

Blister Rust Control. On January 12 inquiry forms were sent to all 1954 Yellowstone blister rust employees to determine availability next season.

~~The estimate for the Boulder Creek blister rust control unit at Rocky Mountain was received and forwarded to Region Two.~~

Forest Insects. After obtaining opinions of private landowners and others interested in spruce budworm control, State Forester Moon of Montana recommended that the State pay control costs on its own land and the Federal Government finance all other costs, including those on private lands. To date no further information has been received from the Forest Service about the proposed control project in Montana and Idaho.

Trails. Four items totaling $12,950, which are needed over and above the 1956 Estimates for horse trails, were submitted to the Administrative Officer for inclusion in the 1957 Preliminary Estimates. These items cover one new power saw, one power saw replacement, funds for mapping and surveying the entire horse trail system and funds for increasing the size of the trail crew by four additional men.

The Priority List of trail projects was revised and reduced to four projects. These will be included in the new Project Construction Program revision for the park. The projects to be included are: Reconstruction of 9 miles of the Bechler River trail, construction of trail 7G on the Mirror Plateau, trail 1F2 from Arnica Creek to Mary Mountain, and trail 5B on the Pitchstone Plateau.

Requirements for Trail Maintenance Man have been set up and submitted to the Civil Service Commission for approval. It is believed these new requirements will produce a better class of applicants for trail maintenance positions and eliminate applicants who are unsuited for this type of work.

The manufacture of trail markers was discontinued during January as all available personnel were engaged in other activities.

4. Preparation of an air-ground tested time [illegible] [illegible] map.

5. Preparation of the [illegible] [illegible] map scale readings, for use in the dispatcher's office.

6. Fire truck and slip-on tanker placement study.

7. Narrative report by Mr. [illegible] on Yellowstone aerial detection and [illegible] problems.

Building Fire Protection. Maintenance work on fire extinguishers in the Bismarck area, such as [illegible] large [illegible] type extinguishers, and replacing defective carbon tetrachloride extinguishers, was begun.

Blister Rust Control. On January 12 inquiry [illegible] were sent to all 1954 Yellowstone blister rust employees to determine availability next season.

The estimate for the Boulder Creek blister rust control unit at Hoody Mountain was received and forwarded to Region Two.

Forest Insects. After obtaining opinions of private landowners and others interested in spruce budworm control, Senior Forester [illegible] of Montana recommended that the [illegible] control [illegible] on its own land and the Federal Government finance all other costs, including those on private lands. To date no further information has been received from the Forest Service about the proposed control project in Montana and Idaho.

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The manufacture of trail markers was discontinued during January as all available personnel were engaged in other activities.

Ranch and Corral Operations. All horses and mules were fed for the entire month. Two horses are at North Entrance and all others at Lamar Unit.

Repair of saddles and related equipment was continued at Lamar Unit.

Accidents and Public Safety. Two motor vehicle accidents occurred on the Gallatin road, neither causing any personal injuries. One was a two-car collision accident caused by slippery road conditions. The other was caused by two elk jumping in front of a tanker. Both elk were killed and the tanker went out of control into the Gallatin River. Damage, however, was estimated at only $100.

A revision of the Special Rules and Regulations regarding the operation of boats on the waters of Yellowstone National Park was completed and submitted to the Director for approval. These revisions were designed for greater visitor protection and better control of boat operations by the Protection Division. These proposals will also make our requirements more in line with those of the Coast Guard for inland waters except where local conditions require special regulations.

Safety traffic signs have been designed for the local ski club area. These will be manufactured and placed on the road at Undine Falls as a protection to pedestrians traveling between the parking area and the ski tow.

Recommendations for caution and safe driving practices under winter conditions were made by the Yellowstone Safety Committee. These were published in the Weekly News Letter.

Deaths. Dr. George Gould, resident physician, received word January 6 of the sudden passing of his sister, age 39, in Boston, Massachusetts, due to a heart attack the preceding night. Dr. Gould left by plane the same day for Boston to attend the funeral services, returning the 9th.

Edward J. Garr, 72, died January 10 in the Deaconess Hospital in Billings after an extended illness. Mr. Garr was employed here by the National Park Service from 1936 to 1950 as a Stationary Fireman, being in charge of the oil heating plant at Gardiner for a number of years. Burial was in Livingston.

Births. A son was born to Dr. and Mrs. George Gould at the Park Hospital in Livingston on January 2. Dr. Gould is the resident physician in the park.

Personnel. Norman B. Herkenham, Park Naturalist, GS-7, Yosemite National Park, was selected January 5 to fill the position here of Park Naturalist, GS-9, vacated by the transfer December 29 of W. Verde Watson to Cape Hatteras. Mr. Herkenham expects to arrive about February 16.

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Repair of saddles and related equipment was continued at Lamar Unit.

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Safety traffic signs have been designed for the local ski slide area. These will be manufactured and placed on the road at Bunsen Hills as a protection to pedestrians traveling between the parking area and the ski tow.

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Edward J. Carr, 72, died January 11 in the Beaconsfield Hospital in Billings after an extended illness. Mr. Carr was employed here by the National Park Service from 1934 to 1950 as a stationary fireman, being in charge of the oil heating plant at Gardiner for a number of years. Burial was in Livingston.

Births. A son was born to Dr. and Mrs. George Gould at the Park Hospital in Livingston on January 2. Dr. Gould is the resident physician in the park.

Personnel. Norman B. Herkenham, Park Naturalist, GS-7, Dinosaur National Park, was selected January 9 to fill the position here of Park Naturalist, GS-9, vacated by the transfer December 27 of [illegible] to Cape Hatteras. Mr. Herkenham expects to arrive about February 16.

Margaret R. Acree, Clerk-Stenographer, GS-4 in the Personnel and Files Office, submitted her resignation January 28, to be effective February 11.

Marie A. Pierson received a temporary appointment January 18 as Clerk-Typist, GS-3 for employment in the Personnel Office.

In accordance with Executive Order 10556 of September 1, 1954, and Departmental Circular 762 of September 2, 1954, the indefinite promotions of a number of employees were made permanent effective September 11, 1954.

The positions of William L. England, Guard, and Homer H. Springer, Guard (WAE), were converted from CPC-4 to GS-2 effective January 16, pursuant to Section 106 (a) of Public Law 763 of the 83rd Congress.

In accordance with Executive Order 10577 and Departmental Circular 776 of December 1, 1954, the indefinite appointments of a number of employees were converted to career or career-conditional appointments effective January 23. Those converted to the latter status included the majority of seasonal Park Rangers (Naturalist) and Park Rangers (General), GS-4. Effective the same date and by the same authority all permanent employees were converted to career status.

Miscellaneous. The Mammoth and Gardiner Schools reopened January 3 following Christmas vacation.

The January meeting of Local 465 of the National Federation of Federal Employees was held in the Canteen the evening of January 3 and the following officers were elected for the 1955 year: Rolla Everett, President; Joe Kurtz, Vice-President, Mrs. Helen Tracy, Secretary; William Wright, Treasurer; Thomas Schoder, Guard; and Stanley McGomas, Frank Mattson, Mrs. Helen Abbie, John Schmid and Robert Robinson, members of the Board of Directors. Mr. Wright, who was unable to attend the meeting, declined the office and a new Treasurer will be elected at the February meeting.

The regular monthly meeting of the American Federation of Government Employees was held in the Canteen the evening of January 10.

The annual meeting and election of officers of the Yellowstone Federal Credit Union was held January 24 in the Canteen and the following will serve as its officers for the ensuing year: Edward Schultz, President of Board of Directors; Stanley Fillmore, Secretary-Treasurer of Board; and Ralph Reed, Thomas Somerville and James Brown, other members of the Board of Directors; John Galle Chairman and Clarence Scoyen and Willis Stanton Members of Credit Committee; and Alice Kohout Chairman

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In accordance with Executive Order 10356 of September 1, 1954, and Departmental Circular 762 of September 2, 1954, the indefinite promotions of a number of employees were made permanent effective September 11, 1954.

The positions of William D. Hagland, Guard, and Homer G. Springer, Guard (WG), were converted from GS-4 to GS-2 effective January 16, pursuant to Section 126 (a) of Public Law 763 of the 83rd Congress.

In accordance with Executive Order 10577 and Departmental Circular 776 of December 1, 1954, the indefinite appointments of a number of employees were converted to career or career-conditional appointments effective January 23. Those converted to the latter status included the majority of seasonal Park Rangers (Naturalist) and Park Rangers (General), GS-4. Effective the same date and by the same authority all permanent employees were converted to career status.

Miscellaneous. The Mammoth and Ferdinand Schools reopened January 3 following Christmas vacation.

The January meeting of Local 165 of the National Federation of Federal Employees was held in the Canteen the evening of January 3 and the following officers were elected for the 1955 year: Rolla Everett, President; Joe Hurts, Vice-President, Mrs. Helen Tracy, Secretary; William Wright, Treasurer; Thomas Schodes, Guard; and Stanley Mossman, Frank Mattson, Mrs. Helen Abbie, John Schmid and Robert Robinson, members of the Board of Directors. Mr. Wright, who was unable to attend the meeting, declined the office and a new treasurer will be elected at the February meeting.

The regular monthly meeting of the American Federation of Government Employees was held in the Canteen the evening of January 16.

The annual meeting and election of officers of the Yellowstone Federal Credit Union was held January 24 in the Canteen and the following will serve as its officers for the ensuing year: Edward Schultz, President of Board of Directors; Stanley Willmore, Secretary-Treasurer of Board; and Ralph Reed, Thomas Somerville and James Brown, other members of the Board of Directors; John Tulle Chairman and Clarence Keaton and Willis Stanton Members of Credit Committee; and Alice Kohout Chairman

and Alice Quist and Howard Kocher Members of Supervisory Committee.
A 3.6% dividend was voted from last year's operations.

Joseph Joffe
Acting Superintendent

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